

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 PARIS 29921 090714Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
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R 082135Z SEP 78
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7162
INFO AMEMBASSY ANTANANARIVO
AMCONSUL BORDEAUX

S E C R E T PARIS 29921

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PINT, MA
SUBJ: MALAGACHE OPPOSITION LEADER ASKS FOR US HELP

REF: CONGEN BORDEAUX MEMCON OF JULY 4, 1978

1. ON AUGUST 24 ANDRE RESAMPA, FORMER FIRST VICE PRESIDENT AND SECURITY CHIEF OF THE MALAGACHE REPUBLIC, CAME TO THE EMBASSY ON APPOINTMENT TO DISCUSS THE SITUATION ON THE ISLAND. HIS PRESENTATION WAS ESSENTIALLY AN ELABORATION OF THAT REPORTED IN THE REFERENCED MEMCON AND ITS ATTACHMENT: THE PRESENT GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC IS COMMUNIST LEANING AND WILL BECOME DOMINATED BY THE RUSSIANS TO THE GRAVE STRATEGIC DETRIMENT OF THE WEST.

2. RESAMPA LEFT BEHIND A PAPER SUMMARIZING HIS ANALYSIS WHICH CONCLUDED WITH A SECTION ENTITLED, "OUR PROGRAM OF ACTION" WHICH IS AS FOLLOWS:

--CREATION IN PARIS OF A BUREAU OF INFORMATION WHICH WILL BE DIRECTED BY A LAWYER;

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--REORGANIZATION AND SENSITIZING OF STUDENTS AND YOUTH IN THE SIX UNIVERSITY CENTERS AND IN THE PROVINCES;

--REORGANIZATION OF OUR PRESS IN A WAY THAT, EVEN IF CENSORED, WILL RECALL TO OUR MILITANTS THAT WE EXIST AND THAT OUR STRUGGLE CONTINUES;

--CREATION OF DISCREET CELLS OF MILITANTS
ACROSS THE COUNTRY IN SUCH A WAY THAT WE WILL NOT BE
CAUGHT OFF GUARD."

3. IN THE MARGIN OF THE SECTION ON PROGRAM OF ACTION
WAS HANDWRITTEN "ONE MILLION DOLLARS" WHICH WAS AS
ANTICIPATED, THE REAL PURPOSE OF RESAMPA'S VISIT: U.S.
ASSISTANCE FOR RESAMPA'S OPPOSITION GROUP. HIS
APPEAL FOLLOWED FAMILIAR LINES: FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
RECEIVED WOULD BE USED IN IMPLEMENTING
THE ACTION PROGRAM THROUGH SUCH THINGS AS AIRCRAFT
AND AUTOMOBILE RENTAL TO GIVE MOBILITY TO ORGANIZING
EFFORTS, ETC. OUR REPLY TO RESAMPA WAS UNEQUIVOCALLY
NEGATIVE: THE US SUPPORTS HUMAN RIGHTS AND ENCOURAGES
DEMOCRACY BUT DOES THIS THROUGH NORMAL DIPLOMATIC
MEANS; WE TREAT WITH GOVERNMENTS, NOT THROUGH SUPPORT
OF OPPOSITION GROUPS. AT THE SAME TIME, WE HAVE NO
COMPLEXES ABOUT TALKING WITH OPPOSITION FIGURES TO
HEAR THEIR VIEWS.

4. WE ASKED RESAMPA IF HE HAD CONTACTED THE US
EMBASSY IN ANTANARIVO. HE SAID NO, THAT HE WAS UNDER
SURVEILLANCE AND WAS RELUCTANT TO DO FOR SECURITY
REASONS. WE TOLD HIM THAT WAS OBVIOUSLY HIS CHOICE.
WE ALSO ASKED IF HE HAD BEEN IN TOUCH WITH THE FRENCH
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FOREIGN MINISTRY. HE SAID NO, BUT THAT HE HAD
ATTEMPTED THROUGH A FRIEND TO GET A HEARING AT
THE ELYSEE. HE GAVE THE IMPRESSION THAT THIS HAD NOT
COME OFF, OR AT LEAST NOT AT THE LEVEL HE DESIRED.

5. BY WAY OF CREDENTIALS WHEN INTRODUCING HIMSELF
RESAMPA GAVE US A "MANDAT" AUTHORIZING HIM TO SPEAK
IN THE NAME OF THE "NATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR THE DEFENSE
OF LIBERTIES AND TRUE DECENTRALIZATION" SIGNED BY THE
PRESIDENT, VICE-PRESIDENT, AND SECRETARY GENERAL,
RESPECTIVELY JUSTIN MANAMBELONA, ALEXIS BEZAKA AND
JACOB IMBE.

6. RESAMPA SAID THAT HE WOULD BE IN FRANCE RECUPER-
ATING FROM AN OPERATION NECESSITATED BY AN AUTO
ACCIDENT UNTIL ABOUT THE END OF OCTOBER AFTER WHICH
HE WILL RETURN TO MADAGASCAR.

7. DOCUMENTS LEFT BY RESAMPA BEING POUCHED AF/E
AND EMBASSY ANTANARIVO.
HARTMAN

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NNN

Message Attributes

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